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Any citizen may send for some of this material listed in this bulletin and get it by the payment of a small sum. The bulletin in question has a great deal of very interesting reading about our government that is not to be found in any other place. Letters from every department of the government, the organization of each department, and first-hand stories of the departments fill 204 pages and form a body of material that is exceedingly difficult to find anywhere else. No text in civics or history is comparable to this bulletin in the body of material that it contains. To match it, one would be compelled to search far and wide to assemble the data.

Conservation of vision in public schools.—In this day of conservation of all resources we are not surprised nor displeased to find for our perusal the latest publication¹ of the National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness. Quoting from a letter to the *School Review* from the managing director of the above committee, "Classes for conservation of vision have been formed in a number of cities in several states and having continued long enough to have passed the experimental stage the question of establishing such classes in the public schools throughout the United States has become of such vital interest and inquiries concerning methods of procedure, equipment, selection and training of teachers, standards for entrance, etc., have become so numerous, that there is an evident necessity for a handbook on the subject. Those who have informed themselves of the need of provision in the educational process for meeting the requirements of an unfortunate group—neither blind nor yet wholly competent from a visual standpoint—are of the opinion that this manual should be in the hands of every state and city superintendent of schools, principal, and teacher interested in sight-saving classes."

Besides a history of the movement to organize classes of children who have poor vision, reasons for aiding them in this positive fashion, and the necessary equipment for doing the work, there is quite a full discussion of every other professional and administrative problem that would likely come up in trying to execute proper plans to save this unfortunate class of boys and girls. The Committee, through its secretary, has accomplished what it set out to do, namely, put forth a handbook in which full details for conserving vision are clearly stated.

In the conclusion we find, "The best recommendation for conservation of vision classes comes from the children themselves. They never want to leave when the dismissal bell sounds. They are not truants, although while in the regular grade truancy was perhaps their greatest fault. They are interested, and interest is the magic word in education. They grow independent, because they must learn to do things for themselves. They become confident, for through confidence their trust is won. They go forth messengers of light, because they have been saved from darkness."

Surely this subject is worthy the careful consideration that is here set forth, and when we know that in smaller systems of schools many an unfortunate child has to struggle along as best he can among the normal children, or drop out en-

¹ WINIFRED HATHAWAY, "Manual for Conservation of Vision Classes," *National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness Publications No. 18*. New York: National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness, 1919. Pp. 108. \$0.50.

tirely, it behooves us to pause a moment and take stock of our daily methods and see whether or not we are using just the best judgment in handling boys and girls that we are capable of using.

Boston's effort to increase the wages of her teachers.—It is not a far-fetched statement to say the increase in salaries, especially those of school teachers, has not been commensurate with the increase in the cost of living. Boston recognized this fact to the extent that in the latter part of 1919 she entered into a strenuous campaign to get legislation that would alleviate the troubles contingent upon such low salaries. Consequently the School Committee compiled a mass of statistics on wages of teachers in many towns in Massachusetts and 24 cities of over 200,000 population throughout the United States.

These figures were tabulated and published in two pamphlets¹ which make a very convenient reference for the very latest data on teachers' wages. The School Committee proposed the new schedule on the principles that (a) the largest proposed increase in salary goes to the lowest paid teachers in the service; (b) some increase in salary is proposed for everyone in the employ of the School Committee; and (c) the amount of proposed increases and the readjustments conform as closely as possible to the supply of teachers.

Quoting the *Educator-Journal* of Indianapolis, "Hod-carriers, \$1,200; elementary teachers, \$800 is a contrast of annual incomes in the cases of two classes of workers in two of our large cities. In the same cities blacksmiths receive \$1,700 per year, and bricklayers \$1,900. Some day, perhaps, society will consider the teacher worthy of as big pay as those that work in stone and iron and other inanimate things."

Administrative officers who are contemplating a more ample remuneration for their teachers will do well to secure these two pamphlets and use those portions that will best suit their own localities. We believe Boston has shown the way to do the square thing by teachers and we are anxious to see the day when every community that is not in poverty will cease being parsimonious with the most valuable service it receives.

Report of a conference on educational measurements.—In April, 1919, the Sixth Annual Conference on Educational Measurements was held at the University of Indiana and, judging from the report,² it must have been a decided success. In this report one can find very fruitful discussions of the group test as a means to classify intelligence in high school, grades, in the factory, office, and many other places. Language and grammatical errors, the relation of physical environ-

¹ "Increased Salaries for Teachers and Members of the Supervising Staff of the Boston Public Schools." Pp. 47. "Salaries of Public School Teachers in Cities of over 200,000 Population in the United States and in Selected Cities and Towns in Massachusetts," *School Document No. 19*. Pp. 96. Boston: Boston Public Schools, 1919.

² "Sixth Conference on Educational Measurements," *Bulletin of the Extension Division, Indiana University*, Vol. V, No. 1. Bloomington, Indiana: The Extension Division of Indiana University, 1919. Pp. 122. \$0.50,